Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) ~~Chromatographic~~ A chromatographic process for separating saccharide monomers from saccharide dimers and/or saccharide trimers from saccharide dimers, in a feed solution having a saccharide dimer content of more than 65 weight % on dry solids basis, wherein an ion exchange resin with a ~~high~~ degree of crosslinking of 5 to 8% is used when saccharide monomers are separated from saccharide dimers, and ~~a~~ an ion exchange resin with a ~~low~~ degree of crosslinking of 2 to 4.5% is used when saccharide trimers are separated from saccharide dimers, the process resulting in a separated saccharide dimer fraction by removal of at least 75% of the saccharide trimers from the feed solution and/or by removal of at least 65% of the saccharide monomers from the feed solution, and resulting in a yield of saccharide dimer of over 85 weight % on dry solids basis.
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceeding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the saccharide dimer is maltose, maltitol or sucrose.
6. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any on of the preceeding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the saccharide dimer is cellobiose, cellobitol, xylobiose or xylobitol.

7. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceeding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the saccharide monomer is glucose, fructose or sorbitol.

8. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the crosslinked cation exchange resin is a strong acid cation exchange resin.

9. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the crosslinked cation exchange resin is a gel type strong acid cation exchange resin.

10. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the ~~saccharides are~~ saccharide-containing feed solution is derived from starch.

11. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to claim 10, wherein the ~~saccharides are~~ feed solution is derived by saccharification of liquefied starch with pullulanase and beta-amylase.

12. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to claim 11, wherein the ~~saccharides are~~ feed solution is derived further by treatment with maltogenic alpha-amylase and subsequent saccharification with low temperature alpha amylase, optionally followed by a final saccharification with maltogenic alpha-amylase.

13. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the separation is effected at a temperature in the range of 65 to 90° C.

14. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the separation is effected at a temperature of 80° C or more.

15. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~

Claim 1, wherein the ~~disaccharide~~ saccharide dimer is a sugar alcohol, ~~which~~ and the process further comprises the ~~further~~ step of ~~crystallising~~ crystallizing the sugar alcohol.

16. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to claim 15, wherein the ~~disaccharide~~ sugar alcohol is maltitol.

17. (new) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the feed solution has a saccharide dimer content of 75-90 weight % on dry solids basis.

18. (new) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the feed solution has a saccharide monomer and/or saccharide trimer content of 1.5 – 10 weight % on dry solids basis.

19. (new) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the feed solution has a saccharide monomer and/or saccharide trimer content of 1.5 – 3 weight % on dry solids basis.

20. (new) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the feed solution has an amount of saccharide monomers and/or saccharide trimer content of less than 10 weight % on dry solids basis.

21. (new) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the separated saccharide dimer fraction has a saccharide dimer content of 90 to 96 weight % or more on dry solids basis.